AFSCME Local 2067 City of Salem Questionnaire

Good afternoon, candidate for Salem City Government, this is the questionnaire that must be filled out and returned prior to interview for endorsement from AFSCME Local 2067, City of Salem.

Please answer the questions to the best of your abilities, should you have any questions or need additional information feel free to reach out to Doug Lantz at dlantz@oregonafscme.org

Interviews will be March 2, 2024 so questionnaires will be due back by midnight on February 16, 2024. Please email the questionnaire to Doug Lantz at dlantz@oregonafscme.org

Your responses will be posted on the local's website.

_____

Your name: Hamadi J Jackson

Office for which you are a candidate:

1. What would your goals and priorities be as city leader? As a leader I would want to be known as the voice of the underserved. Our unsheltered and youth populations are not always given the representation they require to be successful in our community. I want to change that for them and for the city.

2. Give examples of how you've advocated for worker's rights in the past. This being my first involvement in city government I don't have examples of my direct involvement in city government, but the communities that our workers live in and around I have always found to be a passion in my life to be an advocate for. I am the current chairperson on the Human Rights Commitee that is dedicated to protecting the unprotected groups in our community. I also sit on the Salem Police Foundation and the Court Appointed Special Advocates of Marion County both of which work closely with the public servants that represent our city employees and our underserved in Salem.

3. Recognizing the value and importance of employee retention, proper training and work/life balance, what do you see as your role in improving retention and ensuring that capable employees are attracted to make long careers in the City of Salem? As a long-term resident in our community i believe that an employee that feels recognized with the basic tenants of employment like equal pay, appreciation and fair hiring practices.

4. Given increasing inflation, projected labor shortages, crumbling infrastructure and expanding issues related to the unsheltered in our city, how would you prioritize conflicts in the City's budget? I am a firm proponent for people before policy. With the ever-changing economic landscape, we need to provide the unsheltered and unrepresented in our city with every opportunity to change their destiny. With education, training, counseling, and housing assistance we can integrate the unsheltered population into our growing employed aspects of the citizenry here in Salem.

5. We believe that public services should have public oversight, even when that service is being contracted out. How will you ensure there is public oversight of contracted work? What are your

thoughts on protecting wages and promoting safety standards of contracted workers? Public oversight is always extremely important. Checks and balances are the most integral aspect of government at every level. In my experience the most effective way to ensure this is through transparency. By keeping contracts, wages, and safety standards open and transparent the oversight will be automatic.

6. Why are you interested in our endorsement? As the union representation for State, County, and municipal employees it is vitally important for city government officials to come alongside you and support the people who are responsible for our city's daily success. I want to be able to hear their voices. To bring their concerns to the council and advocate on their behalf.

7. What do you want our members to know about you and your plans? I would like them to know that I am just like them. I am a father of an amazing son that pushes me to be better every day. I am a public servant just like them, going to work every day to make our communities better. It is my goal as a council member to be the proverbial feet on the round for public servants, underserved, and the young people who have not been represented.